

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10
IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 SOE-02
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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5480
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USIAEA

DEPT PASS IO/SCT

DOE PASS AMMONS, IA

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM, IAEA, TECH
SUBJECT: SELF-MONITORING ELECTRONIC FIBER-OPTIC SEALS
REF: (A) VIENNA 2118, (B) VIENNA 1799, (C) VIENNA 1753

1. VON BAECKMANN (IAEA) HAS REQUESTED THROUGH ISPO LIAISON THAT ONE OR PREFERABLY TWO SUBJECT SEALS BE DELIVERED TO IAEA ASAP. MISSION SUPPORTS REQUEST FOR ACCELERATED DELIVERY, REPORTED PREVIOUSLY REFTEL A. BACKGROUND AND EXPLANATION OF MISSION'S RECOMMENDATION FOLLOW:

2. VON BAECKMANN EXPLAINED TO MISOFFS THAT DEMONSTRATION OF PROGRESS IN DEVELOPMENT OF SELF-MONITORING SEALING HARDWARE COULD INFLUENCE FAVORABLY COMPLETION OF FACILITY ATTACHMENTS FOR EURATOM FACILITIES. IAEA-EURATOM SAFEGUARDS NEGOTIATIONS ARE SUBJECT OF SPECIAL MEETING OF IAEA
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BOARD OF GOVERNORS TO BE CONVENED 21 APRIL, REFTELS B AND C.

3. VON BAECKMANN HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT IT IS UNCERTAIN THAT SANDIA CAN CARRY OUT THOROUGH TESTING OF THE SEALING SYSTEM BEFORE END APRIL. FURTHERMORE, THE IAEA WOULD HAVE ONLY EXTREMELY LIMITED EXPERIENCE WITH THE SEALING SYSTEM

UNDER FIELD CONDITIONS OF INTEREST TO THE IAEA EVEN IF THE SEAL HAD BEEN APPARENTLY SUCCESSFULLY DEMONSTRATED FOR THE IAEA BY THAT DATE. MISOFFS RECALLED TO VON BAECKMANN THAT USG DOES NOT BELIEVE IT IS AGENCY'S INTEREST TO BASE FACILITY ATTACHMENTS UPON SPECIFIC DEVICES OR TECHNOLOGY OF UNDEMONSTRATED RELIABILITY. HE ASSURES MISOFFS THAT IT WAS NOT INTENTION TO SUGGEST SUCH APPROACH. HE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT CERTAIN FACILITIES (E.G. SEALED STORES) WOULD REQUIRE FREQUENT VISITS BY IAEA INSPECTORS FOR MANUAL CHECKING OF SEALS, TO ACHIEVE SHORT DETECTION TIMES APPROPRIATE FOR TYPE AND QUANTITY OF MATERIAL. THIS WOULD RAISE CONCERN RE MANPOWER REQUIRED BY IAEA AND EURATOM. IF IT WAS SEEN THAT DEVELOPMENTS WERE UNDERWAY WHICH WOULD, IF SUCCESSFUL, RELIEVE SUCH CONCERN, HE BELIEVES COMPLETION OF FACILITY ATTACHMENTS BASED UPON MANUAL CHECKING OF SEALS WOULD BE FACILITATED.

4. MISSION RECOMMENDS WE TAKE VON BAECKMANN UP ON HIS APPROACH, IF EXPEDITING DELIVERY OF ONE OR TWO SELF-MONITORING SEALS IS POSSIBLE. MISSION WILL ALERT IAEA NEGOTIATORS TO BASIS OF VON BAECKMANN'S REQUEST, AS DESCRIBED ABOVE, TO AVOID ANY REFERENCE TO SUCH SEALS IN INITIAL FACILITY ATTACHMENTS.

5. PLEASE ADVISE. LABOWITZ

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